Case 3:07-cv-02107-W-BLM Document 3-2 Filed 10/30/2007 Page 1 of 49

Case 3:06-cv-07026-MJJ

Document 56-2

Filed 09/04/2007

Page 7 of 10

#### Transcribed Statement

Of Andrew Shalaby
Claim No CKS 9984
Date: June 1, 2006

Page 8 of 11

It came off and is healing perfectly. Um, somehow or another my, my skin is doing well Uh, I'm making a, a good recovery, I think Very good recovery

- Q: Okay. Um, in regards to going back to the, uh, the, the canister
- A. Yes
- Q' ... um, w-, um, had you used the canister before or, uh, or was it brand new or
- A Um, I'm pretty sure we used that one before. Yes. Because it had the tip on it. But we had, uh, we keep several inside the motor home Um, I'm certain I used that one before It had a tip on it The tip was on it.
- Q: Okay And you didn't notice any problems with the prior use?
- A: No It worked well
- Q' [unintelligible].
- A: It worked very well. Never I've never had a problem with any of those canisters Never in my life. And I've used them throughout the years many years.
- Q So this is the first time you've had any kind of a, of a, of a crack or a leakage or, or anything.
- A Ever.
- Q accidental of that nature?
- A Yeah, Ever
- Q. Um, okay. And the, the only witnesses that were with you at the time was your, your, your son and your daughter and you wife but they didn't actually see the they saw you on fire but they didn't actually see the .
- A Nobody saw the fire as it happened They saw the glow of the fire but they, they were facing the other way Um, my son didn't see anything, he was in the motor home My daughter was asleep My wife was facing the other way walking towards the motor home and all of the campers that, uh, were in the area, we didn't get information on any of them.
- Q' Yeah. And, uh, this was being used to light a log is my understanding for a camp fire?

Case 3:07-cv-02107-W-BLM Document 3-2 Filed 10/30/2007 Page 2 of 49 Case 3:06-cv-07026-MJJ Document 56-2 Filed 09/04/2007 Page 8 of 10

#### **Transcribed Statement**

Of Andrew Shalaby Claim No.. CKS 9984 Date June 1, 2006 Page 9 of 11 Α Yeah. I think it was a log. It was either a log or a Duraflame. I don't remember. Q. Okay And there was no flammable material [inaudible]?  $\mathbf{A}$ Flammable Yeah Q: Well, I guess in regards to ... A. Chemical - lighter fluid? Q ...lighter fluid on them or that kind of chemicals. Α Nothing like that. Q. Okay. A I think it was just a log if I remember correctly. Okay. Um Q. We often used the torch to light the, uh, charcoal for the barbeque. A. Q: With the BernzOmatic, uh... Α With the BernzOmatic It's MAPT M-A-P-T Q Yeah  $\mathbf{A}$ It's not propane. Q. Yeah. I guess it's a MAPT gas. I guess it's a different. Α Yeah Q. . combustible type of gas or fuel. Um, okay Is there anything that I left out or you can think of anything else that, uh, might \_\_\_\_[inaudible] A: Okay Q And then for, um, for identification purposes, can I have your date of birth? Α October 7, 1960

Case 3:07-cv-02107-W-BLM Document 3-2 Filed 10/30/2007 Page 3 of 49 Case 3:06-cv-07026-MJJ Document 56-2 Filed 09/04/2007 Page 9 of 10

#### **Transcribed Statement**

Of Andrew Shalaby
Claim No.. CKS 9984
Date June 1, 2006 Page 10 of 11

- Q Okay. And could you, uh, spell your last name?
- A: S-H-A-L-A-B-Y.
- Q: Okay And, uh, I think we'll conclude the recording and, uh, again, the, the recording has been done with your full knowledge and consent?
- A Yes, it has
- And, uh, the, uh, your answers have been true and to the best of your abilities were accurate?
- A. Yes. They were true and they're ac-, well, I don't know about accurate Um, um, as far as the actual incident, the day of the burn, I'm just going on my memory to the best of what I think is accurate but, uh, I will tell you this, after I got out of the hospital I was told that, uh, a lot of my information probably \_\_\_\_ [unintelligible] not accurate I was told that I told the doctor my appendix was removed.
- Q. Oh.
- A. But I was I had no medications at the time of the injury Um, that's my memory to the best of my knowledge.
- Q Okay The medications that I guess you're currently on right now while we're taking this recording would be?
- A: The only medication I'm on right now if you could say I'm on anything is the Lunesta that I took last night for sleeping, um, and the Celebrex, which I took last night for pain So I don't think I have any medications in my system.
- Q: Okay.
- A. Um, I am having very mild withdrawals from the Xanax but I don't think it's affecting anything
- Q: Okay.
- A I think my memory is good now.
- Q: Okay. Okay And, uh, again this is Joe Tancredy with St. Paul Travelers Insurance and we'll be concluding the, uh, uh, the recording. Okay.
- A Okay

Case 3:07-cv-02107-W-BLM Document 3-2 Filed 10/30/2007 Page 4 of 49 Case 3:06-cv-07026-MJJ Document 56-2 Filed 09/04/2007 Page 10 of 10

#### **Transcribed Statement**

Of.

Andrew Shalaby

Claim No

CKS 9984

Date:

June 1, 2006

Page 11 of 11

[Tape off.]

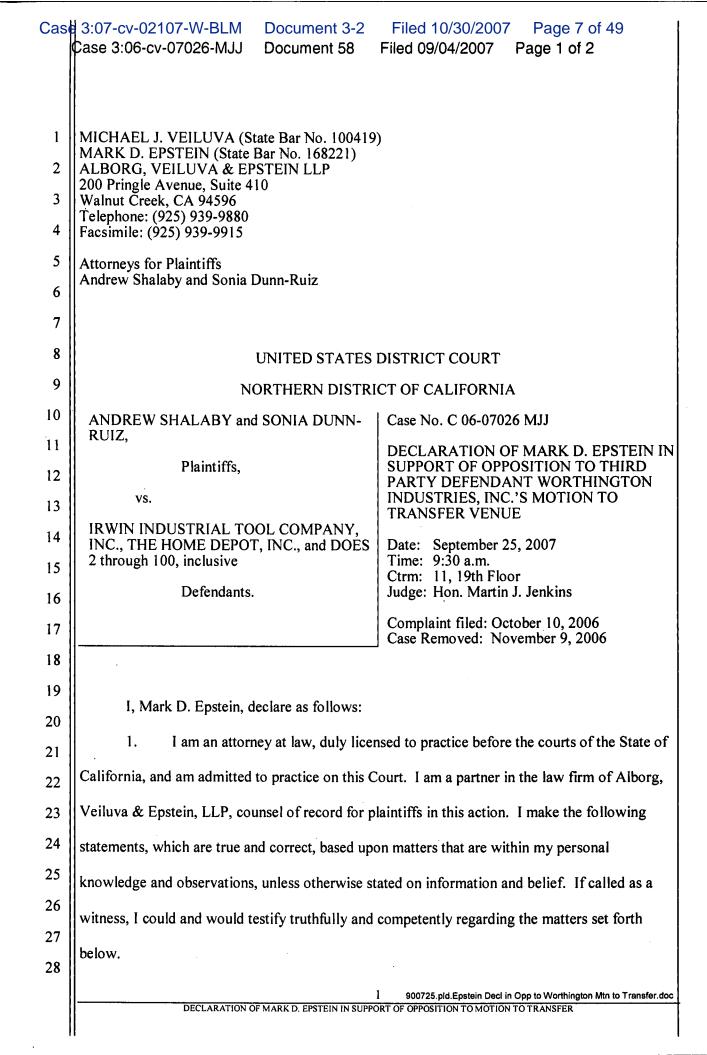
JT/bpt/jaf/0727/RS0724E

- 2. During the week of April 17, 2006, my family and I were vacating at Campland-on-the-Bay ("Campland"), a recreational vehicle resort located near the water in San Diego, California.
- 3. On the evening of April 21, 2006, during our stay at Campland, my husband Andrew Shalaby was severely injured when he attempted to light a wood campfire with his Bernzomatic MAPP Gas torch. As my husband went to ignite the fire with his torch, I heard a loud "whooshing" sound and looked over at my husband and saw that he was on fire, engulfed in flames. I immediately came to his aid.
- 4. At trial, I will testify regarding the details of my husband's and my experience in the aftermath of the incident, including the nature, extent and scope of Andy's physical injuries and emotional issues, the out-of-pocket expenses we have incurred as well as our loss of income as a result of the incident. I will also testify regarding the emotional and practical effects that the incident has had on our lives.

I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California that the foregoing statements are true and correct, and if called to testify as a witness I can and will testify competently thereto.

Executed on September 1, 2007 at El Cerrito, California.

Sonie Dunn-Rung SONIA DUNN-RUIZ



MARK D. EPSTEIN

25

26

27

28

Case 3:06-cv-07026-MJJ

Document 58-2

Filed 09/04/2007

Page 1 of 3

FROM



CATALOG **TOOL FINDER WIZARD EXPERT CENTER SUPPORT & SERVICES** DOWNLOAD CENTRAL WHERE TO BUY

Sign In Shopping Cart Order Status

#### TOOL FINDER RESULTS

Below are the fuel types appropriate for your project. Click on the icons to view the products within each category.



Propane fuel is a basic gas which is appropriate for the following projects:

- Soldering copper pipes up to 3/4"
   Thawing frozen pipes & locks
   Loosening rusted boldts
   Removing paint, caulk & putty
   Lighting pilot light & grills



MAPP gas is a Multi-Application fuel appropriate for the following projects:

- Soldering copper pipes up to 3/4"
   Thawing frozen pipes & locks
   Loosening rusted bolts
   Removing paint, caulk & putty
   Lighting pilot light & grills
   \*\*The company of the compan

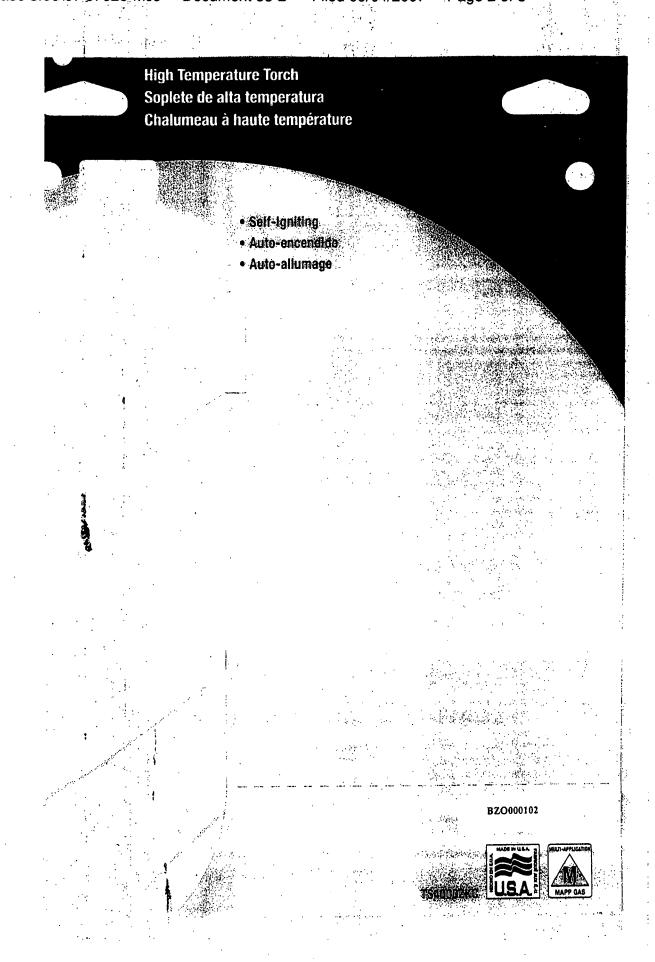
#### PLUS

PLUS
- Soldering copper pipes over 3/4"
- Brazing copper pipes
- Brazing steel
- Hardening steel (+ Oxygen gas)
- Repairing garden tools (+ Oxygen gas)
- Light welding (+ Oxygen gas)
- Thin metal cutting (+ Oxygen gas)

LEGAL - PRIVACY - A MEWELL/RUBBERMAID COMPANY

CONTACT US - ABOUT US - SITE MAP

Case 3:07-cv-02107-W-BLM Document 3-2 Filed 10/30/2007 Page 10 of 49 Case 3:06-cv-07026-MJJ Document 58-2 Filed 09/04/2007 Page 2 of 3



Document 58-2

T\$4000ZKI

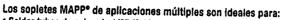


#### MULTI-APPLICATION™

High Temperature Torch Soplete de alta temperatura Chalumeau à haute température



- Soldering Copper Pipes from 1/8" up to 3"
- Thawing Frozen Pipes & Locks
- Brazing Steel
- Brazing Copper Pipes
- Loosening Rusted Bolts
- Removing Paint, Caulk & Putty
- Lighting Grills



- Soldar tubos de cobre de 1/8" (3.18 mm) hasta 3" (76.2 mm)
- Decongelar tubos y cerraduras congeladas
- Soldar acero
- · Soldar tubos de cobre
- Aflojar pernos oxidados
- Remover pintura, impermeabilizante y masilia
   ncender parrillas

Les chalumeaux MAPP° utilisés pour diverses applications sont idéaux pour:

- Souder des tuyaux en cuivre de 1/8 pouce à 3 pouces
- Dégeler les tuyaux et les serrures grippés
- Braser des plèces en acler
- · Braser les tuyaux en cuivre
- Desserrer les boulons rouillés
- · Enlever la peinture, les mastics de calfeutrage et le mastic de vitrerie
- · Allumer des grils



BERNZOMATIC Medina, NY 14103, UBA 1-800-484-9011 www.bernzomatia.gem WARNING: Contents extremely flammable and under pressure. DO NOT store at temperstures above 120°F /40°C. Keep away from heat and flame. DO NOT store in living areas. Carefully read caution on Individual containers. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILLDREN.

El contenido es extremadamente inflamable y está bajo presión. NO almacenar a temperaturas superioras e los 49°C / 120°F. Mamtener elejado del calor y del fuego. NO almacene sete producto en áreas de vivienda. Les reuldadosamente las precauciones indicadas en cada recipiente en particular. MANTENER ALEJADO DEL ALCANCE DE LOS NIÑOS.

ADVERTENCIA:

AVERTISSEMENT:
Contanu extrêmement
Inflammable et sous
pression. NE PAS
entreposer à des
températures supérieures
à 49°C (120°F). Cardor
toin de toute source de
chaleur ou flamme.
A NE PAS ranger dans des
endroits habitables.
Lire attentivement les
maes en gards sur les
contanants individuels.
GARDER HORS DE PORTÉE
DES ENRANTS.



WARNING: ALWAYS wear safety goggles, gloves and other appropriate safety items for protection.

ADVERTENCIA: SIEMPRE use gafas y guantes de seguridad y otros artículos adecuados para su protección,

AVERTISSEMENT: TOLUGURS porter des verres de sécurité, des gants et tout autre article de sécurité afin d'assurer votre prolection.

G04085

BZO000103

Lagran.

Thawing frozen pipes.
Pipes can freste it they are exposed to an outside wall during freezing weather. You can use a Bernschmalic torch to thaw hem. But be careful. Thawing trozen pipes the wrong way can cause them to burst. Be sure to use an appropriate heat sheld between the pipes to be thawed and nearby walls, Start at the faucat and of the frozen pipe. Open up the the faucat and begin heating there, working your ways toward the water supply. If all its going well, water will start dripping out of the open faucat.





If you have oldes that are prome to freezing, it's a good idea to insulate them or leave the cabled doors of the sink open so room heat can protect them.

#### Removing floor tile

Removing floor title
Occasionally It's necessary to remove a damaged
floor the and replace it, an ideal application for
a BernzOmatic torch, Use the frame spreader
strachment on the torch, Heat the life, keeping the
propene cylinder angled up, playing the frame over
all areas of the title until it leats uncomfortably
warm to the touch. Score a file on all dides of the
title. Use a putty knife to lift one corner of the title.
Keep moving the putty knife stong the adge of the
title to you can lift the entire adge. Keep applying
heat and slowly work the putty knife undernasth until the title cornes up.



After the tile has been lifted, keep applying heat to the floor surface being careful not to heat the adjoining tiles. Use the purity knife to scrape away all traces of tile coment. For final clean-up of the surface, use soip and warm water for water-soluble coment, or paint thinners. Be careful not to get the scopy water or paint thinner undermath adjoining tiles. Whose the srea dry and you're ready to apply the new coment and replacement tile.

This brochurs provides a general overview of the many uses of BarnzOmstic torches. If you want to learn more about metal working, consult your local library or consider training through your local vocations/technical school.

\*MAPP™ is a registered trademark of Aircò, Inc.

#### NEW FROM

#### BERNZ O MATIG

### Model JT800 OUTDOOR TORCH and JT850 TRIGGER START OUTDOOR TORCH

- Climinates the need for chemical use.
   Uses Propane or MAPP® gas.

  - UL listed

For more information contact BernzOmatic at (800) 654-9011 or on the internet at http://www.bernzomatic.com













14 34 6

BZO000089



# Self-Igniting Outdoor Torch

Soplete de auto encendido para uso en el aire libre

# 36" Reach from grip to tip Adjustable jumbo flame

Alcance 91.44cm desde la parte que se apréta a la punta Llama ajustable



# Self-Igniting Outdoor Torch

Soplete de auto encendido para uso en el aire libre

36" Reach from grip to tip djustable jumbo flame

que se apréta a la punta Alcance 91.44 cm desde la parte

Advertissement 

 $\triangle$ 

Made in the USA Hecho en USA

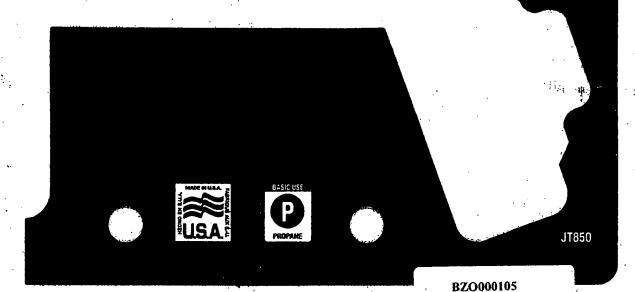
Filed 09/04/2007

Page 4 of 5

## BERNZOMATIC

Self-Igniting Outdoor Utility Torch Soplete de auto encendido para todo uso en exteriores

Chalumeau utilitaire extérieur à allumage automatique



Case 3:06-cv-07026-MJJ... Document 58-3.... Filed 09/04/2007.... Page 5 of 5...

JT850

#### **Ideal For Year Round Use:**

- Lighting Chimineas
- Melting Ice and Snow

#### Ideal para usarse todo el año:

- Para encender chimeneas
- Para derretir hielo y nieve

#### Idéal pour être utilisé toute l'année:

- Allumage de cheminées
- Fusion de la glace et de la niege

- Lighting Camp Fires
- \*
- Burning Weeds
- Para encender fogotas
- Para quemar maleza
- Allumage de feux de camp
- Désherbage par combustion



#### **BERNZOMATIC**

Medina, NY 14103, US/ 1-800-654-901 www.bernzOmatic.com

97325

GD4080

⚠ Warning ⚠	⚠ Advertencia ⚠	⚠ Advertissement ⚠
FREE & BURN HAZARD  For enddoor via only. Rever use near huel, solvents, filammable lispaids, wood, paper, or other combustable materials. Always have a bucket of water or an ABC-type fire entiquisher within each when using burch, failme to todow this warning can resulf in severe personal liquity or death.	PELIGRO DE INCENDIOS Y QUEMADIGRAS Para uso en exteriores finicamenta, fiunca utilico este producto cerca de combustible, solventes, fiquidos inflamables, madera, papel o custquier cutro material combustible. Siempre tenga a la mano un batto de agua o un extinguidor de incendios tipo ABC cusando use un soplete. No obedecer esta	RISQUE O'INCEMORE ET  OE BRÛLERE  Pour utape enteiteur seulement freilliez jamals à proximité di comburstibles, sois, papiers or adres matériteur combustibles. Aye- tonjours à portée de la mais proximité un seau d'eau ve de estincteur d'incendie de type ARI tors de l'estilisation du chalumeau  Affait de committee de controller.

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA



ANDREW SHALABY and SONIA DUNN-RUIZ, )

Plaintiffs,

vs.

No. C06-07026CW

NEWELL RUBBERMAID, INC., RUBBERMAID,)
INCORPORATED, and THE HOME DEPOT,
INC.,

Defendants.

DEPOSITION OF WARREN L. RATLIFF, JR.

Taken at San Diego, California

April 17, 2007

Reported by Catherine Gautereaux, CSR Certificate No. 3122

```
2
   Appearances:
 1
 2
          For Plaintiffs:
 3
              Alborg, Veiluva & Epstein LLP
 4
              By: Mark D. Epstein
              200 Pringle Avenue, Suite 410
 5
              Walnut Creek, California 94596-7380
              (925) 939-9880 fax (925) 939-9915
 6
              mepstein@avelaw.com
 7
          For Defendants:
 8
              Keller, Price & Moorhead
 9
              By: J. Phillip Moorhead
              229 Avenue I, Second Floor
10
              Redondo Beach, California 90277
              (310) 540-1332 fax (310) 540-8480
11
              jpm@kpmlawyers.com
12
         For Warren Ratliff:
13
              Grimm Vranjes McCormick & Graham LLP
14
              By: Gregory D. Stephan
              550 West C Street, Suite 1100
15
              San Diego, California 92101
              (619) 231-8802 fax (619) 233-6039
16
17
18
19
              DEPOSITION OF WARREN L. RATLIFF, JR.,
20
   taken by the Defendants at the Doubletree Club,
21
   1515 Hotel Circle South, San Diego, California,
22
   commencing on Tuesday, April 17, 2007, at 9:05 a.m.,
23
   before Catherine A-M Gautereaux, Certified Shorthand
24
   Reporter in and for the State of California.
25
```

1		I N D E X	3
2	į	INDEX	
3		EXAMINATION BY	PAGE
4	:	Mr. Moorhead	4, 86
5		Mr. Epstein	55
6	i	MI. Dpscein	
7			
8	:	EXHIBITS	
9	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
10		Andrew Shalaby's reservation information	40
11	*	for Campland on the Bay; 3-page incident report, dated 4/21/06	<b>40</b>
12	2 -	Subpoena for the appearance of	46
13	,	Warren Ratliff	
14	3 -	July 12, 2006, letter from Gary Gunther, adjuster, to Therese Kiel;	48
15	·	facsimile cover sheet, dated 7/13/06	
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
	i		

```
4
        SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA; TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2007
 1
 2
                           9:05 A.M.
 3
                     WARREN L. RATLIFF, JR.,
 4
                 having been first duly sworn,
 5
                     testified as follows:
 6
 7
                           EXAMINATION
8
   BY MR. MOORHEAD:
9
        Q
              Okay. Mr. Ratliff, I introduced myself
10
   before, but I will do it again. My name is John
11
   Moorhead, and I represent the defendants in a lawsuit
12
   that has been filed on behalf of a gentleman by the name
13
   of Andrew Shalaby and his wife, and we're here today to
14
   take your deposition.
15
              Now, let me ask, first of all: You ever had
16
   your deposition taken before?
17
        Α
              Yes.
18
              Okay. So you're familiar, at least generally,
        0
19
   with the procedure?
20
              Yes, sir.
        Α
21
              Okay. At the risk of telling you things that
        Q
22
   you already know or things that Mr. Stephan might have
23
   spoken with you about yesterday, let me make sure I go
24
   through the basic ground rules so that we are on the
25
   same page, so to speak, before we get into the
```

substantive testimony.

The court reporter, seated to your right, is taking down everything that we're saying in the room today, or at least trying to. And so it's important that we follow some ground rules to increase the likelihood that the transcript that she prepares is readable.

The first of those ground rules is to try to wait until I've completed my question before you give your answer, because if both of us are speaking at the same time, it's going to be difficult for her to make an accurate record. There is also the risk that the last few words of the question might change its meaning somewhat and, therefore, your answer wouldn't correspond if you jumped in too soon.

So I'll try to wait until you've completed your answer before I ask another question, and if you would, please try to fight the temptation to answer my question before it's done, even though you'll probably know what it is before I finish it.

Now, it's also necessary that you give verbal responses to each question. Although it's perfectly okay to shake your head or make gestures or whatever, she is not here to interpret those things, and the record won't be clear unless you actually speak up and

say "Yes" or "No" or "two feet," or whatever the case may be.

I have the bad habit, not so much in depositions but in other places, of using uh-huh and un-unh. I don't know if you have that same malady, but if you would, try to avoid using those sounds for responses because they won't be clear on the record whether it was a positive or a negative.

If you forget any of these things, it's likely that either myself or Mr. Epstein may ask you, "Was that a yes? Was that a no?" You know, "How far apart are your hands?" We just recognize, having dealt with a lot of these transcripts, that there is going to be a big void here unless we ask you to speak. So we're not trying to get you to change your answer or to elaborate. We just want to know whether this was a yes or a no.

At a later point in time, the transcript will be prepared and sent, I guess, based upon our previous conversation, to Campland, where you'll have an opportunity to look it over and make corrections, if necessary, in order to make it accurate. And then you'll be asked to sign it under penalty of perjury.

You are not a party in this case. Campland is not a party in this case. But it's always best to try to make sure that your best answers are given today and

that changes are not needed to be made later, because it could have an impact on your credibility if that ever comes up, and we don't want to see that happen, and I know you don't, either.

I may ask questions that call for estimates of things like time or distance or whatever. I recognize that you probably didn't have a stopwatch or a tape measure, and I don't expect that type of precision, but I am entitled to your best estimates of such measurements. If you don't have an estimate or no recollection whatsoever, it would be a guess, tell us that. It doesn't help any of us.

If you don't understand one of my questions -and, unfortunately, that happens a lot because my
questions are not always as artful as I'd like them to
be -- please let me know and I will rephrase it until
you do understand it.

As the proceedings go on, if I get tired, my voice may trail off a bit. If you don't hear my question, feel free to let me know. I'll repeat it or I'll ask this nice young lady to read it back to you. But if you give us an answer, we're going to assume that you heard my question and you understood my question and that you mean your answer to correspond to it. Fair enough?

```
8
1
         Α
              Yes, sir.
              Any questions on what's going to happen before
 2
 3
   we get started?
 4
              No, sir.
         Α
 5
              Okay. Let's get your full name for the
 6
   record, please.
 7
              It would be Warren L. Ratliff, Jr. Middle
8
   name, Lee.
9
              And what's your business address, Mr. Ratliff?
10
         Α
              2211 Pacific Beach Drive, San Diego,
11
   California 92109.
12
         Q
              And what's the phone number there?
13
         Α
              To our --
14
         0
              Main number.
15
              The main number would be (858) 581-4200.
16
              And if we were to call that number and ask for
17
   you, they could track you down? Or maybe not?
18
         Α
              Maybe not.
19
         Q
              Do you have a better number?
20
         Α
              Yes.
21
         Q
              What would that number be?
22
         Α
             (858) 581-4219.
23
         Q
              Okay. What's your home address?
24
              Is 1666 Garnet Avenue, G-a-r-n-e-t, No. 116 --
25
   or 119.
             I'm sorry.
```

```
9
1
         Q
              San Diego?
2
              San Diego, California.
         Α
3
         0
              Same ZIP?
 4
         Α
              92109.
5
         0
              Okay. Just for reference purposes, what's
6
   your date of birth?
7
         Α
              June 11th, 1960.
              Okay. By whom are you currently employed,
8
9
   Mr. Ratliff?
10
         Α
              Would be Terra Vista Management; Campland on
11
   the Bay.
12
         Q
              Terra Vista Management is the employer, and
13
   the location is Campland on the Bay?
14
         Α
                    It would be the property location.
15
              And the official business address for Campland
16
   on the Bay is that 2211 Pacific Beach Drive?
17
         Α
              Yes.
18
              Okay. How long have you worked at Campland on
         Q
19
   the Bay, roughly?
20
         Α
              Five years.
21
              What's your current position with Campland?
         0
22
         Α
              With Campland, park ranger supervisor.
23
         Q
              So you supervise other park rangers?
24
              The whole staff, yes.
         A
25
              Okay. And how many rangers does that entail?
         Q
```

```
10
              Currently we have, I believe, ten, besides
1
        Α
2
   myself and the manager.
              How long have you been park ranger supervisor?
3
 4
         Α
              Three years.
 5
              So you were park ranger supervisor in April of
 6
   2006?
 7
         Α
              Yes, sir.
              And who was your immediate supervisor?
 8
         Q
 9
              At that --
         Α
10
         Q
              Now. Today.
11
         Α
              Today?
12
              Uh-huh.
         Q
13
              Is Darrin Sessler.
         Α
14
              And who was it in April of 2006?
         Q
15
              Would be Therese Kiel.
         Α
16
              How does Therese spell her first name, do you
         Q
17
   know?
              Do you mind if I look at --
18
         Α
19
              No, absolutely not. Whatever you need to
20
    refer to is fine.
21
         Α
              T-h-e-r-e-s-e.
22
         Q
              And the last name, K-i-e-l?
23
              Yes, sir.
         Α
24
              Were you working at Campland on the Bay in
25
   April of 2006, when a fellow by the name of Andrew
```

```
11
1
   Shalaby was injured there?
2
              Yes, sir.
3
              You were on duty that evening?
4
              Yes, sir.
5
              Do you have at least some recollection of that
6
   event?
7
        Α
              Yes, sir.
8
              If you can recall, Mr. Ratliff, how did you
         Q
9
   personally become aware that the incident had happened?
10
        Α
              Originally was, other guests at Campland had
11
   came to the gate in a frantic state, yelling that they
12
   had called 911, that there was an individual that was
13
   burned.
14
        Q
              Were you at the gate at the time?
15
              Yes, sir.
16
              So they told you that someone had been burned
17
   and that they had called 911?
18
       Α
              That is correct.
19
         Q
              And these were campers that came to you?
20
         Α
              Yes, sir.
21
              Was there a process at that time, Mr. Ratliff,
         0
22
   whereby you or someone employed by Campland would
23
   typically make some type of a log entry specifically
24
   about learning an event, like, "I got a phone call" or
25
    "I was approached by people at such and such a moment,"
```

```
12
1
   and put it down in writing somewhere?
2
        Α
                   That may be -- okay.
              When you received word of this incident at the
3
        Q
4
   gate, were you at the gate alone as far as employees go?
5
        Α
              I don't recall.
6
        Q
              Did you have access to any type of a vehicle
7
   there?
              Yes, sir.
8
        Α
              What kind of a vehicle did you have?
9
         Q
10
              I have a ranger Toyota pickup truck, and golf
         Α
11
   carts.
12
              You mentioned that you had or -- I guess, is
         Q
   the way the question was asked -- about ten other
13
14
   rangers that report to you?
15
         Α
              Yes.
16
              Was that essentially the same back in April of
17
   2006?
18
             Approximately, yes.
19
              And they work over a 24-hour period, I assume,
20
   in, like, maybe three different shifts?
21
         Α
              Yes.
22
              Typically, on a shift that would include the
         Q
23
   hours of, say, nine o'clock p.m. to midnight, how many
24
   of those ten or so rangers would be on duty at Campland?
25
         Α
              On that particular evening, I believe there
```

```
13
1
   was two.
              And that's in addition to you, or including
2
        Q
3
   you?
4
              Including me.
        Α
                     What other ranger, if you can recall,
5
        0
              Okav.
6
   was on duty that night?
7
              Would have been Randy Stephens.
        Α
              Do you know how he spells his last name?
8
9
              S-t-e-p-h-e-n-s.
        Α
              In addition to the security staff, which would
10
   have involved you and Mr. Stephens or "Steffen," or
11
   however he pronounces it, would there have been other
12
13
   Campland employees on duty at that time of night?
14
         Α
              I am not quite understanding you.
              Your duties, as I understand it, as park
15
    ranger, would have been overall supervision of what was
16
    going on and anybody who would have been, for the sake
17
18
    of example, working at a snack bar, at a laundry
    facility, or anybody else that was employed by Campland
19
20
    at that time of night?
21
         Α
              Yes.
              Okay. Who else would have been employed at
22
23
    that time of night?
              We do have janitorial staff.
24
         А
              Okay. Do you remember any of them that were
25
         0
```

```
15
   dispatch himself immediately to the site.
2
             And how was that done, Mr. Ratliff? By phone?
3
   By radio?
             I believe, by radio. And I could have called
4
        Α
   out. He might have been in the proximity where I was
5
6
   able to yell at him.
7
             I went out there yesterday. It's not far from
   the guard shack to where what I call "the main building"
8
9
       Is it conceivable that he might have been in the
   is.
10
   main building? Is that what you mean by earshot?
11
              In or around that area.
              In any event, you dispatched Randy to go to
12
   the incident site?
13
14
        Α
             Yes, sir.
15
             Do you know how he traveled there? I mean by
16
   foot, in a car or --
17
        Α
              By golf cart. Or I should say a golf car.
              In addition to dispatching Randy to the scene,
18
        0
19
   did you do anything else at that point in connection
   with dealing with this incident? By that I would
20
21
   include maybe yourself calling 911, calling your
22
   supervisor or anything like that.
              At that particular moment I heard the sirens
23
24
   that was on their way. I then had the -- oh, may I back
25
   up a little bit?
```

16 0 1 Sure. 2 Other staff that was working at that 3 particular time would have been our registration. 4 had a registration staff there -- that was there. 5 Q Okay. 6 So I did call him to come and relieve me at 7 the gate and I proceeded to the incident myself by truck 8 and waited as the fire personnel arrived on the scene. 9 Then I escorted them, with them behind me, to the site. 10 So if we back up a little bit, in addition to 11 the potential janitorial staff, the game room attendant, 12 there would have been someone in charge of registering 13 quests? 14 He was normally off at that time, but he 15 happened to be a little bit late that day. 16 Do you remember what his name was? 17 Α I believe on that particular night it was 18 Alexander, and I do not know the last name. 19 Would he have been normally located in what I 20 called the main building, just beyond the guard shack? 21 Α Yes. 22 Okay. So you asked Alexander to come over and 23 relieve you at the gate? 24

All right. And then you waited for the fire

To monitor the gate for me, yes.

25

Q

```
17
 1
   department personnel to arrive so that you could take
 2
   them to the incident scene?
              Yes, sir.
 3
 4
              And did you ride with them? Did you take one
 5
   of the golf cars or carts? Did you take your Toyota?
. 6
   How did you get to the incident scene?
 7
         Α
              The ranger truck.
 8
              And you knew where the incident occurred
 9
   because the campers that reported it to you told you
10
   what campsite they were at or what --
11
              The campsite where they were at.
12
         0
              Great. Give me your best estimate in feet,
13
   yards, miles, or whatever, how far it would have been
14
   from the gate, where you were working, over to the
15
   incident site by way of travel. Not the way the crow
16
   flies, but how far did you have to drive to get there,
17
   roughly?
18
              I would estimate anywhere from 300 to
19
   400 yards.
20
              So it would have only taken you probably a
21
   minute or less to get there?
22
              Yes, sir.
         Α
23
              Mr. Ratliff, when you arrived at the campsite
24
   where the incident had occurred, who else was already
25
   there?
```

Whether or not you know any of their names,

25

Q

```
19
 1
   did you speak with any of them about what happened?
 2
              Yes, I did.
 3
              Do you have any recollection, as you sit here
 4
   today, of what any of these people told you?
 5
              Well, I have different stories from each
 6
   individual.
 7
              All right. I know it would be difficult to
        0
 8
   put a name with a story, but maybe you could do it
 9
   chronologically or in your mind, "This person that
10
   looked like this said 'X'." Can you kind of tell us the
11
   various stories that you heard?
12
              MR. STEPHAN: I'll just object. Vague as to
13
   time. I guess, talking about that night?
14
              MR. MOORHEAD: Yes.
1.5
   BY MR. MOORHEAD:
16
              I'm just talking about there, at the site
17
   things that were told to you.
18
              Well, when I arrived on the site, I secured
19
   the site, observed the individual. We tried to help the
20
   fire department take care of that individual, first.
21
              At that time I had Randy continue to do --
22
   stay with him and monitor him and the campsite itself.
23
   I then went to the first campsite to the left of that
24
   campsite -- those were the individuals that also made
25
   the original call, I guess, for 911 -- and spoke to
```

them.

.4

The one female in that group gave me a story of -- that the guest in that site was trying to light the campfire with the torch and it would not light, and was banging the torch on the side of the fire ring.

Q Okay.

A Another quest --

Q Now, I don't want to go further because I want to make sure I understood the question. A lady from the campsite to the left of Mr. Shalaby's campsite -Mr. Shalaby being the individual that was injured -- to the left as you're facing --

A Facing his campsite.

Q His campsite. A woman in that group told you that she had observed him trying to light the campfire unsuccessfully and banging the torch on -- what did you say? On the campfire ring?

A On the campfire ring.

Q Then, did somebody else give you a story?

A Another individual in that same campsite said that he heard the gentleman was frustrated at not being able to fight -- or to light the campfire. And that was it in that group.

Q Okay. Before we move on, 'cause there may be others, when you arrived, was there a campfire burning

```
21
   in Mr. Shalaby's fire ring?
1
2
              There was a small campfire that was -- that
3
   was lit.
 4
              All right. We talked about the group that was
        0
 5
   in the campsite immediately to the left of the Shalaby
 6
   campsite. Did you speak with any other individual?
7
              I spoke with the other campsite to the right
8
   of them.
9
        Q
              Okay.
10
        Α
              They had a blanket partition, a man-made
11
   blanket partition between them.
12
        Q
              Sort of a privacy thing?
13
              Right. Yes, sir.
14
         Q
              Okay.
15
              Then the individual there said they heard a
16
   explosion, a large flame. Actually, all of them
17
   explained that to me. So there was a large ball of
18
   flame and explosion. And that was pretty much it from
19
   them.
20
              Okay. Was that a male or female that gave you
21
   that story, if you remember?
22
              I believe it was a male and -- a husband and
         Α
23
   wife.
24
              All right.
                          That's all from the campsite
25
   immediately to the right of the Shalaby campsite.
```

```
22
 1
   you talk to any other campers?
 2
                   I cannot recall.
              No.
 3
                    When you arrived at the campsite where
        Q
              Okay.
 4
   the incident happened, was Mr. Shalaby still there?
 5
        Α
              Yes.
 6
              Where, physically, was he located in
 7
   relationship to the physical items that were there?
 8
              As I arrived, he was placed, I believe, by
         Α
 9
   other campers in a lounge chair and his feet placed in
10
   another lounge chair within three feet from the campfire
11
   ring.
12
         Q
              To prop his feet up, you mean?
13
         Α
              Yes.
14
         Q
              And, I assume, someplace away from the fire
15
   ring?
16
         Α
              He was about three feet.
17
              Okay. All right. What about his girlfriend,
         Q
18
   or wife?
              Where was she when you arrived, if you
19
   remember?
20
              I don't recall.
         Α
21
              Okay. You made reference to a child. Where
         Q
22
   was that child located, if you remember?
23
              I believe the child was standing in the wind
24
   break. We have a wind break there in the corner, kind
25
   of out of the way.
```

```
23
              And by "wind break," you're talking about,
1
        0
 2
   like, a wooden fence?
 3
        Α
              Yes.
 4
              Do you remember whether the child was male or
 5
   female?
 6
              No, I do not.
 7
              Okay. When you arrived at the scene, what is
8
   your best recollection of where the cylinder and/or
 9
   torch were located?
              From where Mr. Shalaby was sitting in the
10
   chair, where he was placed by other guests, after that,
11
12
   the cylinder was to his rear, facing the campsite.
   Mr. Shalaby would be to the right, in the chair. The
14
   cylinder was behind Mr. Shalaby, in the dirt,
15
   approximately four feet.
              Four feet from him. How far from the fire
16
17
   ring?
18
              Circular, three feet, probably. The same
         Α
19
   distance as he was.
              Okay. At that time, when you first noticed
20
         0
21
   the cylinder and the torch, were they attached to each
22
   other?
23
              They were still attached.
              Was there any flame coming from the cylinder
24
25
   and torch at that point?
```

A No, sir.

Q As part of your duties that evening, did you do anything specifically to inspect that equipment?

A Yes, sir.

Q What is it that you did, that you can recall?

A First of all, I secured the site, picked the cylinder up -- well, I inspected the cylinder to make sure that it wasn't still in the explosive state, then picked it up to remove it from being a potential hazard from anybody else, held it in my possession the entire time, and went to the fire department's engineer, who was standing there, asked him if they needed this for anything.

His reply to me was, he was going to speak to his captain -- he was making a report in the ambulance -- and he would get back to me.

Q We'll get to that conversation in a minute.

Back to your observations: What observations can you recall making about the cylinder and the torch when you first came into contact with them?

A At that particular moment, the only observation that I observed, that it was MAPP; MAPP gas.

Q So you're familiar with the type of gas that was in the cylinder?

A Yes, sir.

- Q Okay. When you first came in contact with the cylinder and the torch, were they still hot?
- A I picked the cylinder up, and it was not hot at that time.
  - Q Okay. How about the torch? Was it hot?
- A I did not -- I don't recall, myself, touching the torch end of it.
- Q Okay. Did you observe any signs as if the cylinder had exploded; by that I mean any holes in it, any cracks, any fissures, anything like that, in the sidewall or bottom or neck or anything else on the cylinder?
- A At that particular time, the cylinder was not an issue. I did all my observation after the -Mr. Shalaby was taken care of.
- Q Okay. Well, let's move on in time, then, to that point in time when you made your observations. At that point, after he had been taken care of, what observations do you recall making about the cylinder or torch at that point in time?
- A As I took the cylinder back to the gate, I observed the cylinder had a right-angle bend to it at the torch, where the connection to the cylinder is, and appeared to be a crack in the cylinder at the bottom thread level of the cylinder.

```
26
 1
         Q
              Okay.
                     If we -- you're familiar with what they
 2
   look like when they are disassembled, the torch from
 3
   the --
 4
         Α
              Yes, sir.
 5
         Q
              All right. If you were to look at a MAPP gas
 6
   cylinder from the store before it goes through any type
 7
   of event like this one may have, it's shaped somewhat
 8
   like my soda bottle, maybe not as tapered, but it comes
 9
   basically straight up and then it tapers, and then it's
10
   got a neck on the top, that's threaded, right?
11
              Yes, sir.
12
         Q
              Okay. And what color is it?
13
         Α
              It is yellow.
14
         Q
              A MAPP gas cylinder is always yellow, right?
15
         Α
              Yes, sir.
16
              And what you've just described for me is that
17
   the neck of the cylinder that you observed at the gate
18
   following taking care of Mr. Shalaby, was bent?
19
         Α
              Not the neck.
20
         Q
              Okay. What part was bent?
21
         Α
              Well, I don't know if the neck -- 'cause I
22
   never did disconnect the torch head from the cylinder.
23
         Q
              Then, I misunderstood you.
24
         Α
              It just appeared to be a split along the very
25
   bottom, the last thread of the neck.
```

Q And where, along the course of the torch from where it screws onto the neck of the cylinder to the tip, where the fire comes out -- where did you observe the bend that you're talking about, that didn't belong there, so to speak?

A Observed the bend pretty much at the base of the nozzle and the torch -- the cylinder itself.

Q Okay. So --

A At the explosion part, or whatever the break in the cylinder was, is where it was actually bent.

Q So what you are describing for me, if I understand it -- and correct me if I'm wrong -- is that the unusual bend that you saw was at or near the place that the torch attaches to the cylinder?

A That is correct, yes.

Q Okay. And did you make any observations of the torch to determine -- and I don't know if you have the expertise to do this or not, but, if you do, let us know -- whether that appeared to be something that was caused by the event or, for the sake of example, one of those people said that Mr. Shalaby was banging it.

In other words, did it look more like damage that somebody did to it before the event, or was it melted and bent as a result of the event? What did you see?

```
30
   materials.
1
             Okay. What observations did you make that
2
3
   made you believe that it might be that as opposed to any
   of the other things?
5
              Just my past experience from other previous
        Α
6
   places working with the stuff.
7
              So you did not do any type of a qualitative
8
   analysis of the metals involved or anything like that to
   determine if it was --
10
        Α
              Negative. No, sir.
11
              Okay. Did you have discussions with
   Mr. Shalaby at the scene?
12
13
        Α
              No, sir.
              Did you overhear any discussions Mr. Shalaby
14
        0
15
   had at the scene with other people?
16
              No, sir.
        A
              Did you have -- if I already asked you this, I
17
   apologize. Did you have any conversations with his wife
18
19
   or his girlfriend?
20
              Yes, sir.
        \mathbf{A}
21
              Okay. And what, if anything, did you learn
         0
22
   from her?
23
              She was very frantic. I couldn't get pretty
         Α
24
   much any statements from her per se, as she was more
25
   worried about his -- his well-being and that, which we
```

```
31
   all were. And the only conversation that took place was
1
   trying to initially get their address and name, all my
3
   original statements. And I couldn't get that out of
   her.
5
              Okay. Before we get too far away from it,
        Q
6
   back to the torch: In addition to this bend, did you
   see anything else that appeared to be wrong with the
7
8
   torch?
9
              Just that I thought that it could have been
        Α
10
   put on wrong or not all the way in the on position.
11
              Okay. You mean when it was attached to the
        Q
12
   cylinder, it might not have been attached all the way?
13
        Α
              Right.
14
        Q
              Okay. How about missing paint, scratches,
15
   dents, anything like that?
16
              It appeared to me to be normal wear and tear.
        Α
17
              I don't think I asked you this. About what
        0
18
   time was it that you learned of this incident, roughly?
19
              That I learned of the incident?
20
        0
              Yes.
21
              Approximate times were between 10:15 p.m. and
        Α
22
   10:30.
23
              P.m.?
24
              Yes, sir.
        A
              Were you able to determine from any source at
25
        Q
```

```
32
   the scene of the incident how long before you learned of
1
2
   it, it had happened?
3
              I did not understand that question.
 4
              Sure.
                   You learned of it, you said, somewhere
5
   around 10:15 to 10:30, by your conversations with
6
   Ms. Ruiz, the wife/girlfriend of Mr. Shalaby, and the
7
   other campers.
8
              Do you know how long, before that 10:15 or
9
   10:30 time frame that you learned of it, that it had
10
   actually happened? Like a minute before or ten minutes
11
   before or --
12
              I do not know.
13
         O
              Okay. But, in any event, when they reported
14
   it to you, they told you that they had called 911 and --
15
              And it had already happened, yes.
16
              -- and the sirens were on their way?
17
        Α
              Yes, sir.
18
              You indicated that when you arrived at the
         Q
19
   scene, Mr. Shalaby was still there. Was he conscious?
20
        Α
              Yes, sir.
21
              Whether or not you heard anything he said, did
22
   you observe that he was having conversations with
23
   paramedics and ambulance personnel?
24
        Α
              Yes.
25
              Did you observe that he had suffered burns?
         Q
```

```
33
1
        Α
              Yes, sir.
2
         Q
              Where do you remember on his body seeing
3
   burns?
 4
        Α
              I remember his legs, from his ankles up his --
   would be above his knees, his hands and arms.
5
 6
              How about his face?
7
        Α
              I did not recall any on his face.
8
        0
              How about his clothing? Was it burned?
9
        Α
              I don't recall the clothing to be burned.
10
         Q
              Did you take any photographs of the incident
11
   scene, the victim, the equipment that we talked about or
12
   anything else?
13
              No, sir.
         Α
14
              Did you direct Randy to?
15
         Α
              No, sir.
16
              So as far as you know, Campland on the Bay has
         Q
17
   never had any photographs relevant to this incident?
18
              No, sir.
        Α
19
              The cylinder that you observed when you got to
20
   the scene, was it in a condition where it still had its
21
   labels?
22
              Yes, sir.
        Α
23
              Okay. Do you remember whether the label was
24
   damaged in any way, either burned or scratched off or
25
   anything like that?
```